

Little Dome C

Beyond EPICA Oldest Ice Drilling Site (75.29917 °S, 122.44516 °E)

Situation Report #57, 12th January 2026

Personnel @LDC:

Gianluca Bianchi Fasani (ENEA, Camp Leader), Katrin Ederer (AWI), Matthias Hüther (AWI, Chief Driller), Iben Koldtoft (UCPH), Gunther Lawer (AWI), Johannes Lemburg (AWI), Philippe Possenti (CNRS), Barbara Seth (UNIBE, PI in the field), Henrique Traeger (UNIBE), Mohammad Vafadarmianvelayat (AWI), Sergio Zannini (ENEA)

Personnel @DC:

Marion Lahuec (IPEV)



Weather at LDC: sunny, very windy, very cold

Meteo at DC 6:00 pm: T = -28.3 °C, Wind speed = 11.5 kt, Windchill T = -41 °C, Humidity = 69 %

This morning, we changed back to the deviation tool for our final attempt to try to drill into the ledge including reaming and cleaning the ledge. In the following days, we will be busy filtering the hole to have it as clean as possible for future use.

During the day, we started to disassemble the logging table which includes packing all the logging equipment, dismounting the long V-shaped aluminium profiles, the FED and the Swiss circular saw. The wooden table remains in the drill tent. The Vissmann workshop was cleared/cleaned and the 3D printer packed (sadly, no cookie cutters will be printed anymore...).

After dinner, we finally took a group picture of the second (half-) season team – and the last one in the field of the BEOI project.



Dismounting the logging table. Photos by B. Seth and I. Koldtoft





The 2025/26 BEOI field team (second half of the season): (l to r) Mohammad, Henrique, Gunther, Barbara, Matthias, Lemmi, Philippe, Iben, Sergio, Katrin, Gianluca. Photo by G. Bianchi Fasani

CB, GBF, BS & MH; LDC, 12.1.2026

